

PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 07678/116002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Krukonis et al. Art Unit: 1791
Serial No.: 10/623,006 Examiner: Carlos N. Lopez
Filed: July 18, 2003 Customer No.: 21559
Confirmation No.: 4588
Title: REDUCTION OF CONSTITUENTS IN TOBACCO

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the Final Office action that was mailed in connection with the above-captioned patent application on October 16, 2007, Applicants submit the following Remarks.

The Office Action

OK
Claims 1-37 are pending and stand rejected for lack of indefiniteness.

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4/8/08
Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The sole remaining ground for rejection of the present claims is indefiniteness for failure "to particularly point out and claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention." Specifically, the Office states: "The phrase 'under conditions' makes it unclear what parameter is particularly and distinctly being encompassed by the noted phrase. The specification provides for various parameters such as moisture, pH, pressure, and temperature, making it unclear what the phrase 'under conditions...' means."

Applicants traverse this rejection.